



NEW JERSEY LOCAL BOARDS OF HEALTH ASSOCIATION

Regular Meeting Location

South Brunswick Municipal Building

540 Ridge Avenue * South Brunswick, New Jersey

P.O. Box 5069 * Kendall Park, NJ 08824

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (EXCOM)

MEETING MINUTES

August 17, 2024 * 10 am * By Zoom

Call to Order at 10:09 am

1. Salute to the Flag

2. Attendance:

- Voting EXCOM Members Present — Paul Roman, John Saccenti, Stephen Papenberg, Robert Uhrik, Steve Ember
- Past Presidents Present (other than Elected Officers) —
- Staff Present (Legal Counsel, Paid Secretary, Webmaster, Interns) — Julie Moy
- Liaisons Present — None
- Guests Present — Kim Laloma (Dept. of Health)
- Excused — Jeremy Grayson, Diana Lachman, George DiFerdinando, Joan Valas, Christine Harris, Laura O'Reilly–Stanzilis
- Absent —

3. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting(s):

July 20, 2024 – MSP – Papenberg, Saccenti

Abstain: None

4. Secretary's Report, Including Correspondence: No report

5. President's Report:

President Roman reported that he attended the yellow ribbon pre-deployment event sponsored by the US Dept. of Defense for the Army Reserve through 44th Regional Support Command in July. At this event, he met the *K9 Beethoven* organization which provides psychiatric service dogs for therapy and psychiatric care. Pet therapy is a strong mechanism to help those experiencing issues. Their information and link were included in the *On Board* newsletter.

President Roman reported that Rick Hager from the Dept. of Children & Families contacted him and emailed him information on their activities. This information was included in the *On Board* newsletter.

President Roman reported that Anne Maria DeLaCruz, Social Services Coordinator and Registrar for the Borough of Bergenfield in Bergen County contacted him at the request of Dr. Jojy Cheriyan, Board of Health President. President Roman spoke with him on a number of items he wanted to discuss. His main issue was regarding the quorum and member responsibilities. Borough of Bergenfield is a NJLBHA member organization.

President Roman reported that the Healthcare Coalition put out a notice from DOH and the World Health Organization that there is a declared public health emergency of international concern for Mpox, aka Monkey Pox. The World Health Organization considers it as a potential threat. It will be in the September *On Board* newsletter.



President Roman reported that he contacted the Association Business Solutions (ABS) organization which is an advocate and lobbying firm. He spoke to Elizabeth (Libby) Vinson, Sr. Vice President about their services. President Roman will send Ms. Vinson information on our activities and By-Laws.

President Roman reported that he received an email from Noreen Orendor, Millville resident, stating that she saw dogs in the supermarket and wanted to know if this was allowed. He gave her the email address to the Cumberland County Board of Health to report her concerns.

6. Executive Vice President's Report — John Saccenti

President Roman commented that he still has to meet with Mr. Saccenti regarding the awards after Labor Day. Mr. Saccenti stated that we can consider giving out the awards by Zoom. He asked if we received any responses from the special recruiting email request to Health Officers through our *On Board* newsletter, no.

7. Treasurer's Report — Steven Papenberg
Mr. Papenberg went over the financials.

8. Presentation and Approval of Bills —

Cary Chelenza — Invoice for \$367.50

Julie Moy — July Invoice \$100

The motion was made to authorize the payments: MSP: Ember, Saccenti

9. Legal Counsel's Report — No report

10. Committee Reports:

A. By-Laws — No report

B. Finance —

President Roman reported that NJACCHO received additional COVID funding from the State. Linda Brown has requested grant proposals from all the PHACE organizations. President Roman will write a proposal requesting \$7,000 on behalf of NJLBHA.

C. Membership — Stephen Papenberg

Mr. Papenberg reported that we currently have 56 members. Mid-year membership reminder emails will go out in October.

D. Legislative —

President Roman reminded the members that two months ago Assemblyman Herb Conaway Jr. walked away from the Public Health. His Bill proposal would give DOH control of the Institute. Fortunately, the Bill has not moved at this time. Senator Herb Conaway stated in his interview with NJ Spotlight reporter, Lilo Stainton, that he would not post the Public Health Priority Fund Bill. President Roman is trying to schedule a meeting in September with Assembly Speaker Craig Coughlin to discuss the issue. He is also still trying to schedule a meeting with Assemblyman Conaway to discuss the Public Health Priority (PHPF) funds. Senator Joseph Vitale posted the PHPF Bill, which went through the Health Committee for the second time. In the Senate, it still needs to go through the Appropriations Committee. President Roman will also try to schedule a meeting with Senator Vitale. The PHACE organizations are willing to work together. Christopher Merkel's term as the current NJACCHO's President will end in



November. At the League of Municipalities, the new President, Holly Gorman, will be elected for the next two years. President Roman, as Vice President and Kevin Sumner, President of PHACE maintains an open communications with everyone. We are having a tough time raising funds on our own; NJACCHO has an advocacy group assisting them for a small fee. President Roman explained the process of the PHPF Bill which are in both Houses for Mr. Uhrik. Senator Herb Conaway sponsored the Assembly Bill and Senator Vin Gopal sponsored the Senate Bill. President Roman went on to explain that the State is trying to have control of the Institute's finances. The Institute staff went to the Administration requesting a Bill to recognize the Institute. The Bill as written gives control of the Institute's recognition and finances to the Commissioner of Health.

E. Communications, Including Newsletter(s) and Website

Constant Contact — President Roman reported that the *On Board* click rate has increased substantially; open rate is 49.5% and click rate is 24.1%. This appears to be a one time anomaly.

President Roman reported that he reached out to the Association of NJ Environmental Commissions (ANJEC) to get a meeting with the Executive Director, Jennifer Coffey to discuss potentially rejoining their organization and to find out how we can reach out to some of their participating organizations for grants. She has never responded to repeated phone calls and emails.

President Roman reported that he met with Colleen Wharton from the Rutgers Public Health School to begin working on the revision to our training program. However, this is stalled for lack of contact with Ms. Wharton.

President Roman reported that he is looking at *Grant Watch* and another group for funding sources. Also discussed this with Laura Stanzilis in regard to an intern for next semester whom she will supervise to research grants.

President Roman stated that EXCOM members' names are listed on the website. He asked all members to send him a 3-line bio to identify themselves to post on the website.

F. Audit (as necessary) — No report

G. Nominating (as necessary) — No report

11. PHACE

President Roman announced that the next PHACE meeting is September 30, 2024 working on advocacy and opening a bank account.

12. Public Health Institute

President Roman announced that Denise Anderson, PhD was hired as the Executive Director; he read her credentials. The Institute's funding will end in about 6–9 months. Robert Wood Johnson may extend its support.

President Roman reported that he met with Kelly Anderson-Thomas, Deputy Commissioner for Public Health on July 25, 2024, along with her Executive Assistant, Denay Pressley. President Roman has also applied for a meeting with the Commissioner.



13. Public Health Council

President Roman reported that the Attorney General's Office through Deputy Commissioner Anderson-Thomas has been coming down hard on the Public Health Council (PHC) by limiting their ability to take care of business. Deputy Commissioner Anderson-Thomas gave President Roman a list of topics she would like PHC to discuss and she requested a list of topics PHC members would like to discuss, which they are working on. Two members recently retired from the Council, leaving a total of five active members and five open positions.

President Roman reported that the Council passed a resolution of support for the Bill S1210. This Bill will require automatic external defibrillators be available on site at certain public assembly locations and youth athletic events.

14. Liaison Reports — No report

15. Old Business — None

16. New Business — None

18. Educational Presentation (as necessary) — No report

19. General Discussion

Kim Laloma (Dept. of Health)

President Roman reminded EXCOM members, that Mr. Laloma is part of the Advocacy Committee with the NJ Public Health Association. Mr. Laloma is looking for bills to support related to public health on behalf of the NJ Public Health Association (NJPHA). He asked that anyone familiar with writing white paper or needs support on any Public Health related bills, he would like them to contact him. President Roman stated that he can write white papers. He requested NJPHA's support with the amendment to the Institute Bill where they would not be under the function of the DOH but would give them the recognition they are seeking.

Please note that the September meeting may be cancelled due to President Roman's schedule conflict.

Mr. Saccenti asked Mr. Uhrik how we can get the Mayor's Association motivated to work with us. Mr. Uhrik has not heard any discussion; however, he will bring it up. Per Mr. Uhrik, he is not on the Board of the NJ Conference of Mayors. When he brought the brochures to their last Mayor's conference, some of the attendees expressed some interest. Per President Roman, NJACCHO has the ear of the League and has a seat on their Legislative Committee. Through PHACE, we are starting to work closer together. An active relationship with the Conference of Mayors would really be a plus. Mayor Uhrik will get some literature and contact information to President Roman.

Mr. Ember reported that there has not been a Rural Health Council meeting scheduled. He will speak with Mr. Laloma to further discuss.

20. Announcement of Next Meeting:

October 26, 2024 beginning at 10:00 am

Zoom Meeting Link: <https://zoom.us/j/93466224975>

Meeting ID: 934 6622 4975



Dial by your location

929 205 6099

Meeting ID: 934 6622 4975

21. Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn at 11:47 am: MSP: Papenberg, Saccenti

Respectfully submitted,

Julie M. Moy

Julie M. Moy
Recording Secretary